

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 177969 TOSEC 080080

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CHEROKEE - FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE EVENING READING FOR
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978:

1. INDIA. IN HIS MEETING YESTERDAY WITH DAVE NEWSOM, DESAI SAID INDIA IS PREPARED TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, AND TO PROVIDE FOOD AID, IF THE PAKS SO REQUEST. DESAI ALSO SAID HE WOULD UNDERSTAND OUR PROVIDING F5E'S AND OTHER MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN ONCE THE REPROCESSING ISSUE IS RESOLVED, BUT HE WAS NOT SURE HOW INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION WOULD REACT. ON OTHER MATTERS, DESAI SAID INDIA WOULD CONTRIBUTE TROOPS TO ANY UN FORCES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE ALSO URGED THAT WE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN AFGHANISTAN. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION, THE INDIAN
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DEFENSE MINISTER TOLD NEWSOM THAT INDIA COULD POSTPONE THE DEEP PENETRATION STRIKE AIRCRAFT DECISION BY "ONE MONTH OR SO."

2. RHODESIA: HELMS AMENDMENT. SENATOR HELMS HAS PROPOSED AN AMENDMENT TO THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION BILL THAT WOULD SUSPEND U.S. COMPLIANCE WITH UN

TRADE SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA FOR UP TO FIFTEEN MONTHS AS A DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. A SIMILAR AMENDMENT LOST BY ONLY 48 TO 42 IN LATE JUNE, OUT RECENT EVENTS, INCLUDING THE PUBLICITY GIVEN THE MASSACRES IN RHODESIA, PROBABLY HAVE IMPROVED PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE. HELMS CLAIMS 51 VOTES, INCLUDING HOWARD BAKER AND BOB BYRD. HE HAS SENT TO EACH MEMBER OF THE SENATE A COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE BLACK LEADERSHIP IN SALISBURY URGING THAT THE EMBARGO BE LIFTED. HE HAS INDICATED A READINESS TO COMPROMISE ON A SIX-MONTH RATHER THAN FIFTEEN-MONTH SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS AND HAS THREATENED TO FILIBUSTER THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL IF HE IS THWARTED. WE ARE WORKING HARD TO DEFEAT THE AMENDMENT, AND YESTERDAY'S BREAKTHROUGH ON NAMIBIA SHOULD HELP

3. ZAIRE/ANGOLA. AFTER MOBUTU AGREED TO ACCEPT THE CONGOLESE GOVERNMENT AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, WE CONVEYED HIS VIEWS TO ANGOLA. DON MCHENRY WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD THAT NETO AGREED TO SEND A DELEGATION ON JULY 16 TO BRAZZAVILLE FOR A MEETING WITH ZAIRIAN REPRESENTATIVES TO PURSUE THE MATTER. WE HAVE INFORMED MOBUTU OF NETO'S DECISION, AND HE HAS AGREED TO THE MEETING.

4. MAURITANIA. YESTERDAY THE NEW MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT
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TOLD US HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE WESTERN SAHARA CONFLICT. HE URGED US TO FIND A FORMULA ACCEPTABLE TO ALGERIA AND MOROCCO AND SUGGESTED THAT WE SOUND THEM OUT. THE MAURITANIAN DECISION TO SEEK MEDIATION IS WELCOME NEWS AND MAY OPEN THE WAY TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE SAHARA DISPUTE. NEVERTHELESS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WISE FOR THE U.S. TO INVOLVE ITSELF AS MEDIATOR. APPROACHING MOROCCO ON MAURITANIA'S BEHALF COULD GIVE THE MOROCCANS THE IMPRESSION THAT WE HAVE TAKEN SIDES IN THE SAHARAN CONFLICT.

WE ARE INSTRUCTING OUR AMBASSADOR TO REPLY THAT, WHILE WE WILL SUPPORT A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT, WE BELIEVE OTHER GOVERNMENTS WITH CLOSER TRADITIONAL TIES TO THE AREA (E.G., FRANCE, SPAIN, OR AN ARAB COUNTRY) ARE BETTER SUITED TO TAKE THE INITIATIVES SUGGESTED BY THE MAURITANIANS. WE WILL ALSO TELL THEM WE ARE PREPARED TO SUPPORT AN APPROACH TO WALDHEIM TO REENGAGE THE UNITED NATIONS IN MEDIATION OF THIS DISPUTE.

5. HAITIANS. IN THE ABSENCE OF GRIFFIN BELL, MIKE EGAN TELEPHONED ME TODAY TO SAY THAT HE IS LOOKING INTO THE INS

PROCEDURES ON ILLEGAL ENTRANTS FROM HAITI AND THAT HE WILL BE SENDING YOU A MEMORANDUM WITH RECOMMENDATIONS WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

6. SADAT/WEIZMAN MEETING. THE EGYPTIANS TOLD US LAST NIGHT THAT SADAT AND GAMASY WOULD SEE WEIZMAN TODAY IN SALZBURG.

7. BOLIVIAN ELECTION FRAUD. IN VIEW OF MOUNTING EVIDENCE OF ELECTION FRAUD, WE ISSUED A STRONG PUBLIC STATEMENT OF CONCERN. OUR AMBASSADOR WILL ALSO PRIVATELY CONVEY SHARPER AND MORE DETAILED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN TO THE BOLIVIAN LEADERSHIP AND WILL INDICATE THAT SEVERE ELECTION IRREGULARITIES WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR
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VARIOUS RELATIONSHIPS WITH BOLIVIA, AND ON INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION. WE WILL ALSO BE CONSULTING WITH COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, AND COSTA RICA ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR TAKING PARALLEL ACTION.

8. NAMIBIA. FOLLOWING SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE WESTERN CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL, WE PLAN THESE NEXT STEPS:

-- BRIEF SOUTH AFRICA NO LATER THAN SATURDAY ON THE RESULTS OF THE LUANDA MEETING;

-- WORK FOR AGREEMENT ON A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ABOUT JULY 24 TO CONSIDER THE NECESSARY RESOLUTIONS;

-- THEN, WORK FOR SUBMISSION OF A DRAFT UN FORCE MANDATE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN EARLY AUGUST.

ASSUMING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE MANDATE, THE FIRST UN CONTINGENT COULD ARRIVE IN NAMIBIA IN AUGUST. CHRISTOPHER

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